

The Respiratory System

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What is the respiratory system?

- The respiratory system is responsible for the body to get oxygen in and getting carbon dioxide out.
- The respiratory system is connected to the circulatory system, one could not work with the other.
- When air passes by the epithelial cells that have microscopic, hair like things called cilia.
- The respiratory system is one of the prime systems in the body that you need.

Parts of the respiratory system

- Nasal cavity: filters and moistens air
- Epiglottis: prevents food and water from entering into the lungs
- Larynx: contains the vocal cords which allow you to speak
- Trachea: brings air to the lungs
- Lungs: hold the air until the new air is taken by the circulatory system and replaced with carbon dioxide
- Bronchiole: brings air to the alveoli
- Diaphragm: moves up and down to increase and decrease the pressure in the lungs

How different organs work together?

When you breathe, the muscle contracts and rib cage moves up and your diaphragm moves down. This process cause air coming into your body through your nose or mouth. The air passes epithelial cells that have microscopic projections called cilia. These cells also produce mucus. The mucus and cilia help keep foreign particles, such as dust and bacteria, out of your body.

Through smaller and smaller tubes...

After the air comes in by mouth or nose, the air moves into trachea. From trachea the air passes into branching tubes called the bronchi. Each bronchus produces smaller tubes called bronchioles. After entering bronchioles, the air passes into increasingly smaller tubes which is called alveoli. In the alveoli, the air is only one thousandth of a millimetre away from the bloodstream.

Why is respiratory system needed in the body?

The respiratory system does two very important things: it brings oxygen into our bodies, which we need for our cells to live and function properly; and it helps us get rid of carbon dioxide, which is a waste product of cellular function.